

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1226

ANSWERED ON:03.03.2016

Norms for Idol Immersion in Yamuna

Hansdak Shri Vijay Kumar

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether immersion of idol and puja offerings in the river Yamuna has been completely banned by National Green Tribunal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has laid down any norms in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION
(SUSHRI UMA BHARTI)

(a) to (d) Yes, Madam. The Principal Bench of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal vide its order dated 13th January, 2015, in the matter of O.A No. 6 of 2012 and O.A No 30 of 2013 Manoj Misra Vs Union of India and Others has inter-alia prohibited persons from throwing pooja material or any other material like food-grain, oil, etc into river Yamuna, except on the designated site. Any person found disobeying this direction shall be liable to pay compensation of Rs. 5,000/- on the "Polluter Pays" Principle.

It was also directed that the concerned authorities, particularly, the Irrigation Department and concerned Corporations or authorities should build special Ghats on the banks of River Yamuna, where people could offer or immerse such materials, which shall then be duly collected by the concerned authorities for immediate and proper disposal in a scientific manner. It shall be ensured that no such material is permitted to join the main stream of the river at any point. In this regard it was ordered to take such steps, as may be technically advised, including, provision of screens and barricades.
